

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An onboard audio visual system comprising:

- a plurality of audio visual devices;
- a front-seat speaker and a rear-seat speaker for outputting reproduced audio from said audio visual devices;
- a headphone for rear-seat passengers for independently outputting, with respect to the rear-seat speaker, a reproduced audio from one of said audio visual devices arbitrarily selected by the rear-seat passengers through a rear-seat control;
- an operating device mounted in a front seat area in a neighborhood of a driver for performing a predetermined operation by the driver;
- a control device for outputting a first control signal based on the operation performed by said operating device; and
- a first signal attenuator for abruptly attenuating an input signal to said headphone independently of an input signal provided to the rear-seat speaker, in response to said first control signal such that a volume in said headphone is zero.

2. (Withdrawn) An onboard audio visual system having a plurality of audio visual devices; a front-seat speaker and a rear-seat speaker for outputting a reproduced audio from said audio visual devices; and a headphone for rear-seat passengers for independently outputting a reproduced audio from one of said audio visual devices arbitrarily selected by the rear-seat passengers through a rear-seat controller, comprising:

- operating means for performing a predetermined operation;

control means for outputting a first control signal based on what sort of operation is performed by said operating means;

acoustic signal generating means for generating a given calling signal; and

first audio-signal switching means for temporarily switching, in response to the first control signal, from the reproduced audio signal output from said audio visual device to the calling signal, and for outputting the temporarily switched signal to said headphone.

3. (Withdrawn) The onboard audio visual system according to claim 1, further comprising a second signal attenuator for attenuating an input signal to the rear-seat speaker in response to the first control signal output from said control device.

4. (Withdrawn) An onboard audio visual system having a plurality of audio visual devices; a front-seat speaker and a rear-seat speaker for outputting a reproduced audio from said audio visual devices; and a headphone for rear-seat passengers for independently outputting a reproduced audio from one of said audio visual devices arbitrarily selected by the rear-seat passengers through a rear-seat controller, comprising:

operating means for performing a predetermined operation;

control means for outputting a first control signal based on what sort of operation is performed by said operating means;

a hand-free automobile telephone; and

first audio-signal switching means for temporarily switching, in response to the first control signal, from the reproduced audio signal output from said audio visual device to a

transmission microphone signal output from said hand-free automobile telephone, and for outputting the temporarily switched signal to said headphone.

5. (Withdrawn) The onboard audio visual system according to claim 4, wherein, in response to a busy state where said first audio-signal switching means is being switched to output said transmission microphone signal to said headphone, the first control signal of said control means is supplied to said first audio-signal switching means so as to hold the switched state over the busy state.

6. (Withdrawn) An onboard audio visual system comprising:
a plurality of audio visual devices;
first audio-selecting means for selecting one of reproduced audio signals output from said audio visual devices by a driver, and for outputting the reproduced audio signal to a front-seat speaker and a rear-seat speaker;
video selecting means for arbitrarily selecting one of reproduced video signals output from said audio visual devices by rear-seat passengers through a rear-seat controller;
second audio-selecting means for arbitrarily selecting one of the reproduced audio signals output from said audio visual devices by the rear-seat passengers through said rear-seat controller, or a reproduced audio signal attended on the reproduced video signal output from said video selecting means;
operating means for performing an operation by the driver;

control means for outputting a first control signal based on what sort of operation is performed by said operating means;

first signal-attenuating means for attenuating the reproduced audio signal selected by said second audio-selecting means in response to the first control signal;

audio signal transmitting-receiving means for transmitting and receiving a light signal or a radio wave signal modulated by the audio signal output from said first signal-attenuating means to output a demodulated audio signal to a headphone for the rear-seat passengers; and

video signal transmitting-receiving means for transmitting and receiving the light signal or the radio wave signal modulated by the video signal output from said video selecting means to output a demodulated video signal to a display for the rear-seat passengers.

7. (Withdrawn) The onboard audio visual system according to claim 6, wherein second signal-attenuating means for attenuating the reproduced audio signal, which is output from said first audio-selecting means to the rear-seat speaker, in response to the first control signal, is disposed in a supply line of the reproduced audio signal.

8. (Withdrawn) An onboard audio visual system comprising:
a plurality of audio visual devices;
first audio-selecting means for selecting one of reproduced audio signal output from said audio visual devices by a driver, and for outputting the reproduced audio signal to a front-seat speaker and a rear-seat speaker;

video selecting means for arbitrarily selecting one of reproduced video signal output from said audio visual devices by the rear-seat passengers through a rear-seat controller, and for outputting the arbitrarily selected video signal to a display for rear-seat passengers;

second audio-selecting means for arbitrarily selecting a reproduced audio signal output from one of said audio visual devices by the rear-seat passengers through the rear-seat controller, or a reproduced audio signal attended on the reproduced video signal outputted from said video selecting means, and for outputting the arbitrarily selected audio signal or the reproduced audio signal to a headphone for the rear-seat passengers;

guidance audio visual signal generating means for generating a given guidance audio signal and/or a guidance video signal;

operating means for performing an operation by the driver;

control means for outputting a first control signal based on what sort of operation is performed by said operating means; and

audio signal switching means for temporarily selecting the guidance audio signal in place of the reproduced audio signal selected by said second audio-selecting means, and for outputting the temporarily selected guidance audio signal to said headphone in response to the first control signal, and/or said video signal switching means for temporarily selecting the guidance video signal in place of the reproduced video signal selected by said video selecting means, and for outputting the temporarily selected guidance video signal to said display in response to the first control signal.

9. (Withdrawn) An onboard audio visual system comprising:

a plurality of audio visual devices;

first audio-selecting means for selecting one of reproduced audio signals output from said audio visual devices selected by a driver, and for outputting the selected audio signal to a front-seat speaker and a rear-seat speaker;

video selecting means for arbitrarily selecting one of reproduced video signals output from said audio visual devices by rear-seat passengers through a rear-seat controller;

second audio-selecting means for arbitrarily selecting one of reproduced audio signals output from said audio visual devices by the rear-seat passengers through said rear-seat controller, or a reproduced audio signal attended on the reproduced video signal output from said video selecting means;

guidance audio visual signal generating means for generating a given guidance audio signal and a guidance video signal;

operating means for performing a predetermined operation;

control means for outputting a first control signal based on what sort of operation is performed by said operating means;

first audio signal switching means for temporarily selecting the guidance audio signal in response to the first control signal in place of the reproduced audio signal selected by said second audio selecting means;

video signal switching means for temporarily selecting the guidance video signal in response to the first control signal in place of the reproduced video signal selected by said video selecting means;

audio signal transmitting-receiving means for transmitting and receiving a light signal or a radio wave signal modulated by the audio signal output from said first audio signal switching means, and for outputting the demodulated audio signal to a headphone for the rear-seat passengers; and

video signal transmitting-receiving means for transmitting and receiving the light signal or the radio wave signal modulated by the video signal output from said video signal switching means, and for outputting the demodulated video signal to a display for the rear-seat passengers.

10. (Withdrawn) An onboard audio visual system having a plurality of audio visual devices; a front-seat speaker and a rear-seat speaker for outputting a reproduced audio from said audio visual devices; a headphone for rear-seat passengers for independently outputting a reproduced audio output from one of said audio visual devices arbitrarily selected by the rear-seat passengers through a rear-seat controller, comprising:

operating means for performing a predetermined operation;

control means for outputting, through operation of said operating means, each of control signals having a first period of time $T1$, a second period of time $T1 + T2$, and a third period of time $T2$ which appears after an elapse of the first period of time;

compression-coding means for compressing and coding a reproduced audio signal output from said audio visual device selected by the rear-seat passengers;

audio signal recording means for recording the compressed and coded audio signal in response to the control signal during the second period of time $T1 + T2$;

decoding means for reading the compressed and coded audio signal at a high-speed from said audio signal recording means in response to the control signal during the third period of time T2, and for decoding the read audio signal at a high-speed;

third audio signal switching means for switching the audio signal at a high-speed in response to the control signal during the third period of time T2 in place of the reproduced audio signal output from said audio visual device; and

first signal-attenuating means for attenuating the output signal from the third audio signal switching means, which is sent as an input to said headphone, in response to the control signal during the first period of time T1;

wherein the third period of time T2 is set to such a time that a content of the audio signal decoded at a high-speed substantially comes to the same as a present one of the reproduced audio signal output from said audio visual device.

11. (Withdrawn) The onboard audio visual system according to claim 1, wherein said control comprise:

a sound field generating device, including an adaptive filter and a signal attenuator, for outputting a second control signal over a period of time during which a headphone is in use by detecting a state where the output signal from the audio visual device is input to said headphone, and for bringing on a change in a predetermined frequency spectrum of the reproduced audio signal output from one of said audio visual devices so as to supply the changed audio signal to the rear-seat speaker; and

a fourth audio signal switching device for switching, in response to the second control signal, from the reproduced audio signal directly output from said audio visual device, which is being sent to said rear-seat speaker, to an output signal from said sound field generating device so as to supply the switched signal to said rear-seat speaker.

12. (Withdrawn) The onboard audio visual system according to claim 2, wherein said control means further comprising:

sound field generating means, including an adaptive filter and a signal attenuator, for outputting a second control signal over a period of time during which a headphone is in use by detecting a state where the output signal from the audio visual device is input to said headphone, and for bringing on a change in a predetermined frequency spectrum of the reproduced audio signal output from one of said audio visual devices so as to supply the changed audio signal to the rear-seat speaker; and

fourth audio signal switching means for switching, in response to the second control signal, from the reproduced audio signal directly output from said audio visual device, which is being sent to said rear-seat speaker, to an output signal from said sound field generating means so as to supply the switched signal to said rear-seat speaker.

13. (Withdrawn) The onboard audio visual system according to claim 4, wherein said control means further comprising:

sound field generating means, including an adaptive filter and a signal attenuator, for outputting a second control signal over a period of time during which a headphone is in use by

detecting a state where the output signal from the audio visual device is input to said headphone, and for bringing on a change in a predetermined frequency spectrum of the reproduced audio signal output from one of said audio visual devices so as to supply the changed audio signal to the rear-seat speaker; and

fourth audio signal switching means for switching, in response to the second control signal, from the reproduced audio signal directly output from said audio visual device, which is being sent to said rear-seat speaker, to an output signal from said audio field generating means so as to supply the switched signal to said rear-seat speaker.

14. (Withdrawn) The onboard audio visual system according to claim 8, wherein said control means further comprising:

sound field generating means, including an adaptive filter and a signal attenuator, for outputting a second control signal over a period of time during which a headphone is in use by detecting a state where the output signal from the audio visual device is input to said headphone, and for bringing on a change in a predetermined frequency spectrum of the reproduced audio signal output from one of said audio visual devices so as to supply the changed audio signal to the rear-seat speaker; and

fourth audio signal switching means for switching, in response to the second control signal, from the reproduced audio signal directly output from said audio visual device, which is being sent to said rear-seat speaker, to an output signal from said sound field generating means so as to supply the switched signal to said rear-seat speaker.

15. (Withdrawn) An onboard audio visual system having a plurality of audio visual devices; a front-seat speaker and a rear-seat speaker for outputting reproduced audio from said audio visual devices; a headphone for rear-seat passengers for independently outputting a reproduced audio from one of said audio visual devices arbitrarily selected by the rear-seat passengers through a rear-seat controller, comprising:

control means for outputting a second control signal over a period of time during which said headphone is in use by detecting a state where an output signal from said audio visual device is input to said headphone;

sound field generating means, including an adaptive filter and a signal attenuator, for outputting a second control signal over a period of time during which a headphone is in use by detecting a state where the output signal from the audio visual device is input to said headphone, and for bringing on a change in a predetermined frequency spectrum of the reproduced audio signal output from one of said audio visual devices so as to supply the changed audio signal to the rear-seat speaker; and

fourth audio signal switching means for switching, in response to the second control signal, from the reproduced audio signal directly output from said audio visual device, which is being sent to said rear-seat speaker, to an output signal from said sound field generating means so as to supply the switched audio signal to said rear-seat speaker.

16. (Previously presented) The onboard audio-visual system according to claim 1, wherein said operating device is arranged on a front operation panel for said plurality of audio

visual devices, operating functional buttons of said audio visual devices are utilized for the operating device.

17. (Previously presented) The onboard audio-visual system of claim 1, where the input signal to said headphone is abruptly attenuated by 10 db or more in response to said first control signal.